

Remarks

Claims 16-44 are pending. Claims 17, 18, 22, and 32 have been canceled. Claims 47-55 have been added. Thus, claims 16, 19-21, 23-31, and 33-55 remain under consideration.

Claims 16, 19, 23, 28, 31, 33, 34, and 40 are amended.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application in view of the claim amendments and the following remarks.

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 18 was objected to as being allowable, but dependent from a rejected base claim. Claim 16 has been amended to represent claim 18 rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, claim 18 and the intervening claim 17 have been canceled. Claims 19 and 23 have been amended so that the dependency of each claim conforms the amendment to claim 16.

Claim 28 has been amended to recite an array comprising the article of claim 16, and one or more reactant affixed to the polymeric conductive coating.

Claim 32 was objected to as being allowable, but dependent from a rejected base claim. Claim 31 has been amended to represent claim 32 rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, claim 32 has been canceled. Claims 33 and 34 have been amended so that each claim conforms to the amendment to claim 31.

Claim 40 has been amended to correct a typographical error.

No new matter is introduced by these amendments.

New Claims

Claim 22 was objected to as being allowable, but dependent from a rejected base claim. New claim 47 represents claim 22 rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, claim 22 has been canceled.

New claims 48-52 are drawn to particular embodiments of the article of claim 47 and are, therefore, patentable for at least all of the reasons that claim 47 is allowable. Support for these new claims may be found, for example, at page 12, lines 13-29 (claim 48); from page 17, line 27 through page 18, line 12 (claims 49 and 50); from page 11, line 24 through page 12, line 29 (claim 51); and from page 8, line 2 through page 9, line 31 (claim 52).

New claim 53 recites an array comprising the article of claim 47, and one or more reactant affixed to the polymeric conductive coating. Thus, new claim 53 is allowable for at least all of the reasons that claim 47 is allowable.

Claims 54 and 55 are drawn to particular embodiments of the array of claim 53. Support for these new claims may be found, for example, at page 6, lines 2-16 and from page 15, line 26

through page 17, line 25 (claim 53), from page 4, line 27 through page 5, line 5 (claim 54), and from page 15, line 26 through page 17, line 25 (claim 55). Thus, claims 54 and 55 are allowable for at least all of the reasons that claim 53 is allowable.

No new matter is introduced by new claims 47-55.

§ 102 Rejections

Claims 16, 17, 23-31, and 40-44 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 6,395,483 ("Patil"). The amendments submitted above obviate the rejection.

Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 16, 17, and 23-31 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-3 of Patil in view of U.S. Pat. No. 4,332,075 ("Ota").

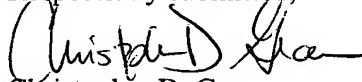
Claims 16, 17, 23-31, 40, and 41 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-13 of U.S. Pat. No. 6,593,089 in view of Ota.

Applicants will provide an appropriate response to the double patenting rejections upon indication of otherwise allowable subject matter.

Conclusion

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application and allowance of claims 16, 19-21, 23-31, and 33-55 is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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